



2004/2005 Alaska Vaccine Distribution Program

Planning for Vaccine Storage in the Event of a Power Failure

→ **Please make plans now for safekeeping of your vaccine in the event of a power failure, including potentially transporting vaccine to alternate storage sites.**

As a vaccine provider in Alaska, you receive vaccines at no cost to you. However, these vaccines are quite expensive. At any given time, even a small clinic may have several thousand dollars worth of vaccine in the refrigerator. Therefore:

- **Every vaccine provider must ensure written emergency procedures are in place that will maintain your vaccine supply at proper storage temperatures in the event of power outages.** Assurances might include having your own back-up generators or a written plan to transport vaccines to alternate storage facilities (such as local hospitals or police/fire stations) that have emergency power systems and appropriate refrigerator/freezer units.
- **Written emergency procedures must be posted in a highly visible location** (such as on the door of the main vaccine storage refrigerator) so that they may be easily located in the event of a power failure.
- Persons responsible for vaccine storage should ensure availability of **staff** and an adequate supply of **coolers and cold packs** to transport vaccine.

Thank you for your attention to the care of your vaccines. If you have any questions or comments about vaccine storage and handling, contact:

Alaska Immunization Program Vaccine Depot

DURING OFFICE HOURS: (907) 341-2202

AFTER HOURS: in Anchorage 269-8000 outside Anchorage 1-800-478-0084